Near-field spectroscopy and photochemistry from first principles

beyond the dipole approximation

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Optical near field refers to a non-propagating light field localized around an emitter or scatterer such as metallic nanostructures. The interaction between the near-field and molecules can overcome the diffraction limit of a propagating light, induce non-dipolar excitations, and enable nanoscale chemical analysis down to single molecule even with sub-molecular resolutions. Recent experiments utilizing scanning tunneling microscopy offer a unique platform for nanoscale spectroscopy and microscopy [1], as well as photochemistry [2]. From the theoretical perspective, the optical near-field excitation of molecules requires us to go beyond the dipole approximation, which is not possible with available ab initio codes. In this paper, a first principles method based on the multipolar Hamiltonian for electronic and vibrational excitations and their applications to near-field IR and Raman spectroscopies will be described [3-7]. In addition, some of our theoretical efforts on near-field photochemistry will be given [8].

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